

13 APR 1946

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Library

Report for the month of February, 1946.

Issued by the Acting Government Statistician (Mr. R.J. Little), Perth, 29/3/46.

This report gives the latest available figures relative to Population; Marriages, Births and Deaths; Land Settlement; State Government Revenue and Expenditure; Savings Banks; Bank Clearances; Real Estate Transactions; Sales Tax; Companies Registered and Bankruptcy; Government Railway Operations; Motor Vehicle Registrations; Trade; Building Permits; Butter Production; Gold Output and Dividends Reported; Prices; Employment; Electricity Supply (Metropolitan Area) and Livestock Slaughtering.

POPULATION.

The population of the State on the 31st December, 1945, was estimated to be 493,700

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Note: Particulars relative to deaths refer to civilians only.

|                                 |                               | JANUARY |       | 12 months ended December. |        |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|-------|---------------------------|--------|
|                                 |                               | 1946    | 1945  | * 1945(a)                 | 1944   |
| Marriages                       | .. No.                        | 396     | 390   | 3,791                     | 4,506  |
| "                               | * Rate per 1000 of population | 9.44    | 9.40  | 7.72                      | 9.28   |
| Births                          | .. No.                        | 931     | 1,003 | 10,672                    | 10,870 |
| "                               | * Rate per 1000 of population | 22.19   | 24.18 | 21.72                     | 22.39  |
| Deaths                          | .. No.                        | 438     | 387   | 4,712                     | 4,478  |
| "                               | * Rate per 1000 of population | 10.44   | 9.33  | 9.59                      | 9.23   |
| Infant Mortality                | No.                           | 39      | 25    | 315                       | 354    |
| "                               | " Rate per 1000 Live Births   | 41.89   | 24.93 | 29.52                     | 32.57  |
| PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH -     |                               |         |       |                           |        |
| Tuberculosis                    |                               | 14      | 16    | 163                       | 149    |
| Cancer                          |                               | 60      | 50    | 564                       | 566    |
| Influenza                       |                               | 2       | 1     | 14                        | 9      |
| Diphtheria                      |                               | 2       | 3     | 20                        | 24     |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.      |                               | 45      | 35    | 437                       | 398    |
| Arteriosclerosis.               |                               | 8       | 18    | 175                       | 173    |
| Diseases of the Heart           |                               | 109     | 87    | 1,329                     | 1,104  |
| Pneumonia and Broncho-Pneumonia |                               | 30      | 19    | 287                       | 322    |
| Diarrhoea and Enteritis         |                               | 6       | 5     | 45                        | 57     |
| Nephritis                       |                               | 14      | 17    | 214                       | 166    |
| Diseases of Early Infancy       |                               | 20      | 13    | 176                       | 197    |
| Senility                        |                               | 8       | 13    | 150                       | 179    |
| Accidents                       |                               | 38      | 29    | 245                       | 250    |
| ALL Other Causes                |                               | 82      | 81    | 893                       | 884    |
| Total                           |                               | 438     | 387   | 4,712                     | 4,478  |

\* Equivalent Annual Rate

(a) Revised.

See Overleaf.

# LAND SETTLEMENT.

Land taken up under conditional alienation during the two months ended February, totalled 28,358 acres, a decrease of 10,780 acres on the corresponding period last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 7,841 acres, a decrease of 709,923 acres.

## STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

|                                    | Month of February |            | 3 months ended February |            |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|
|                                    | 1946              | 1945       | 1946                    | 1945       |
|                                    | £                 | £          | £                       | £          |
| Revenue .. ..                      | 1,143,139         | 1,094,819  | 3,531,496               | 9,041,305  |
| Revenue per Head of Population     | £2. 6. 3d.        | £2. 4. 9d. | £17.8.2d.               | £13.11.1d. |
| Expenditure .. ..                  | 1,120,607         | 1,053,945  | 9,416,664               | 9,076,326  |
| Expenditure per Head of Population | £2. 5. 4d.        | £2. 3. 1d. | £19.2.1d.               | £13.12.6d. |

## SAVINGS BANKS.

Deposits on the 28th February, 1946, amounted to £37,452,412, or £75.14.6d. per head of population, as against £29,713,717, or £60.14.10d. per head as at the 28th February last year.

## BANK CLEARANCES.

The average weekly clearances for the 4 weeks ended 25th February, 1946 amounted to £3,662,012 compared with £2,871,675 for the corresponding period last year.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

| Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds | FEBRUARY |         | 3 months ended FEBRUARY |           |
|---|----------|---------|-------------------------|-----------|
|   | 1946     | 1945    | 1946                    | 1945      |
| Transfers .. (No. £)  | 1,271    | 822     | 3,964                   | 6,706     |
| Mortgages .. (No. £)  | 506,858  | 307,534 | 3,835,606               | 2,644,777 |
| Discharges of Mortgages No. £                                 | 585      | 271     | 3,549                   | 1,863     |
|   | 526,479  | 229,790 | 3,127,631               | 1,743,302 |
|   | 654      | 513     | 4,816                   | 3,764     |

## SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE & EXEMPT GOODS AND TAX COLLECTED.

| Month of Receipt of Returns | Taxable Goods                                    |  | Sales of Exempt Goods | Tax Collected |
|-----------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|---------------|
|                             | Sales in respect of which tax is payable (Gross) | Sales in respect of which tax is NOT Payable (Gross) |                       |               |
|                             | £  | £  | £                     | £             |
| 1945 -                      |  |  |                       |               |
| February                    | 711,327  | 640,732  | 1,180,561             | 109,340       |
| March                       | 697,298  | 750,151  | 1,362,562             | 108,056       |
| April                       | 765,446  | 685,943  | 1,276,250             | 110,919       |
| May                         | 854,328  | 759,824  | 1,739,042             | 129,591       |
| June                        | 787,976  | 813,523  | 1,454,764             | 118,410       |
| July                        | 746,309  | 671,083  | 1,543,774             | 113,791       |
| August                      | 789,944  | 794,990  | 1,376,342             | 122,199       |
| September                   | 740,005  | 1,022,344  | 1,296,822             | 117,040       |
| October                     | 915,297  | 625,467  | 1,420,116             | 121,706       |
| November                    | 898,541  | 840,276  | 1,671,491             | 133,311       |
| December                    | 342,650  | 565,516  | 644,750               | 56,462        |
| 1946 - January              | 1,510,643  | 1,062,887  | 2,830,201             | 236,000       |
| February                    | 931,232  | 764,293  | 1,503,464             | 144,395       |



COMPANIES REGISTERED.

30 Local Companies, with a nominal capital of £620,100, and 17 Foreign Companies were registered for the eight months ended 28th February, 1946. For the corresponding period last year, there were registered 6 Local Companies, with a nominal capital of £20,500 and 6 Foreign Companies.

BANKRUPTCY.

8 MONTHS ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY

|                         | 1946 |                  |             | 1945 |                  |             |
|-------------------------|------|------------------|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|
|                         | No.  | Liabilities<br>£ | Assets<br>£ | No.  | Liabilities<br>£ | Assets<br>£ |
| Sequestration Orders    | 8    | 16,281           | 6,259       | 2    | 3,257            | 2,046       |
| Deeds of Assignment (a) | 1    | 2,025            | 230         | 1    | 672              | 1,016       |
| Deeds of Arrangement    | -    | -                | -           | -    | -                | -           |

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

TRANSPORT.

The operations of the State Government Railways open for general and passenger traffic were as follow :-

|                                | JANUARY    |            | 7 months ended January |             |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------------------|-------------|
|                                | 1946       | 1945       | 1946                   | 1945        |
| Gross Earnings £               | 352,900    | 372,700    | 2,359,100              | 2,591,800   |
| Working Expenses £             | 343,732    | 307,440    | 2,341,996              | 2,162,639   |
| Train Miles run                | 561,872    | 535,420    | 3,642,277              | 3,696,919   |
| Passenger Journeys             | 1,483,914  | 1,585,856  | 9,788,744              | 10,671,361  |
| Tonnage Carried -              |            |            |                        |             |
| Paying Goods                   | 232,695    | 216,088    | 1,421,735              | 1,616,038   |
| Livestock                      | 11,606     | 15,664     | 86,333                 | 95,086      |
| Departmental<br>(Free Freight) | 37,907     | 44,371     | 265,615                | 306,865     |
| Total                          | 282,208    | 276,123    | 1,773,683              | 2,017,989   |
| Net Ton Mileage of -           |            |            |                        |             |
| Paying Goods                   | 30,620,318 | 26,058,258 | 182,864,129            | 178,863,055 |
| Livestock                      | 1,381,678  | 1,678,450  | 10,021,056             | 10,538,012  |
| Departmental<br>(Free Freight) | 5,652,886  | 6,759,977  | 38,694,788             | 45,336,521  |
| Total                          | 37,654,882 | 34,496,685 | 231,579,943            | 234,737,588 |

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED (excluding Commonwealth-owned Vehicles)

| Period    | METROPOLITAN AREA                  |                               |       |                 | ENTIRE STATE                       |                               |       |                 |
|-----------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------|
|           | Cars (in-<br>cluding<br>Hire Cars) | Wagons,<br>Vans,<br>Utilities | Buses | Motor<br>Cycles | Cars (in-<br>cluding<br>Hire Cars) | Wagons,<br>Vans,<br>Utilities | Buses | Motor<br>Cycles |
|           | No.                                | No.                           | No.   | No.             | No.                                | No.                           | No.   | No.             |
| Year 1944 | 23                                 | 310                           | 5     | 35              | 28                                 | 803                           | 9     | 93              |
| Year 1945 | 32                                 | 218                           | 8     | 107             | 39                                 | 475                           | 9     | 174             |
| 1946 -    |                                    |                               |       |                 |                                    |                               |       |                 |
| January   | 8                                  | 13                            | -     | 27              | 8                                  | 24                            | -     | 35              |
| February  | 11                                 | 24                            | -     | 41              | 11                                 | 38                            | -     | 45              |

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGISTRATIONS).  
(excluding Commonwealth-owned Vehicles)

| Date<br>(as at<br>end of<br>month) | METROPOLITAN AREA                  |                               |       |                 | ENTIRE STATE                       |                               |       |                 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------|
|                                    | Cars (in-<br>cluding<br>Hire Cars) | Wagons,<br>Vans,<br>Utilities | Buses | Motor<br>Cycles | Cars (in-<br>cluding<br>Hire Cars) | Wagons,<br>Vans,<br>Utilities | Buses | Motor<br>Cycles |
|                                    | No.                                | No.                           | No.   | No.             | No.                                | No.                           | No.   | No.             |
| 1944 -                             |                                    |                               |       |                 |                                    |                               |       |                 |
| June                               | 18,133                             | 5,578                         | 231   | 2,639           | 30,295                             | 22,183                        | 276   | 4,324           |
| December                           | 18,083                             | 6,244                         | 246   | 2,491           | 30,051                             | 22,940                        | 298   | 4,031           |
| 1945 -                             |                                    |                               |       |                 |                                    |                               |       |                 |
| June                               | 18,478                             | 6,603                         | 244   | 2,783           | 30,635                             | 23,649                        | 294   | 4,501           |
| December                           | 18,399                             | 6,771                         | 201   | 3,184           | 30,403                             | 25,367                        | 244   | 5,109           |
| 1946 -                             |                                    |                               |       |                 |                                    |                               |       |                 |
| January                            | 18,632                             | 7,196                         | 204   | 3,568           | 30,167                             | 25,285                        | 274   | 5,581           |
| February                           | 18,823                             | 7,400                         | 204   | 3,811           | 30,667                             | 26,401                        | 290   | 6,004           |

(3) COMMONWEALTH-OWNED VEHICLES (Excluding Defence Service Vehicles).

|                 | Cars | Wagons, Vans, etc. | Buses | Motor Cycles |
|-----------------|------|--------------------|-------|--------------|
| 1946 - February | 91   | 434                | 5     | 7            |

T R A D E.

Trade of Western Australia (Interstate and Oversea) during the seven months ended January, 1946 and 1945, respectively, expressed in terms of Australian currency:-

|            | IMPORTS |         |                           |         | EXPORTS<br>(Including Ships' Stores) |         |                           |         |
|------------|---------|---------|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|
|            | January |         | 7 Months ended<br>January |         | January                              |         | 7 Months ended<br>January |         |
|            | 1946    | 1945    | 1946                      | 1945    | 1946                                 | 1945    | 1946                      | 1945    |
|            | (£1000) | (£1000) | (£1000)                   | (£1000) | (£1000)                              | (£1000) | (£1000)                   | (£1000) |
| Overseas   | 705     | 339     | 3,072                     | 2,908   | 1,357                                | 546     | 7,724                     | 8,471   |
| Interstate | 1,040   | 843     | 8,996                     | 8,208   | 527                                  | 275     | 4,719                     | 2,142   |
| Total      | 1,745   | 1,182   | 12,068                    | 11,116  | 1,884                                | 821     | 12,443                    | 10,613  |



BUILDING ACTIVITY.

(1) PERMITS ISSUED IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA.

| Period                        | New Dwellings and Hotels |         | Stores, Warehouses, Factories, etc. |         | Additions and Alterations |         | Total Permits Issued |          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|----------------------|----------|
|                               | No.                      | Value £ | No.                                 | Value £ | No.                       | Value £ | No.                  | Value £  |
| February, 1946                | *96                      | *86,923 | 6                                   | 2,823   | 207                       | 12,384  | *309                 | *102,130 |
| February, 1945                | 43                       | 25,376  | 3                                   | 26,700  | 132                       | 11,125  | 178                  | 63,201   |
| 8 months ended February, 1946 | 866                      | 733,604 | 38                                  | 32,364  | 1,546                     | 200,984 | 2,450                | 968,701  |
| 8 months ended February, 1945 | 317                      | 208,272 | 12                                  | 38,093  | 800                       | 145,940 | 1,129                | 392,305  |

\* Includes dwellings under the Commonwealth War Housing Trust, which number 15 for a value of £13,909.

(2) PERMITS ISSUED IN COUNTRY DISTRICTS.  
(15 Local Government Authorities)

| Period                        | New Dwellings and Hotels |         | Stores, Warehouses, Factories, etc. |         | Additions and Alterations |         | Total Permits Issued |         |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
|                               | No.                      | Value £ | No.                                 | Value £ | No.                       | Value £ | No.                  | Value £ |
| February, 1946                | *18                      | *13,179 | 4                                   | 668     | 29                        | 3,464   | *51                  | *17,311 |
| February, 1945                | 11                       | 9,250   | -                                   | -       | 18                        | 443     | 29                   | 9,693   |
| 8 months ended February, 1946 | 122                      | 87,541  | 21                                  | 7,597   | 251                       | 21,874  | 394                  | 117,112 |
| 8 months ended February, 1945 | 52                       | 37,279  | 8                                   | 2,296   | 180                       | 11,045  | 240                  | 50,620  |

\* Includes dwellings under the Commonwealth War Housing Trust, which number 8 for a value of £7,580

BUTTER PRODUCTION IN FACTORIES.

882,681 lbs. were produced during January, 1946, and 10,582,353 lbs. for the seven months ended January, 1946, as against 381,256 lbs. and 10,412,714 lbs. respectively for the corresponding periods last year.

GOLD PRODUCTION.

|                               |          | FEBRUARY |         | 12 months ended FEBRUARY |         |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
|                               |          | 1946     | 1945    | 1946                     | 1945    |
| Quantity                      | Fine Oz. | 37,523   | 35,947  | 79,994                   | 77,455  |
| Value (Australian Currency) £ |          | 403,846  | 381,039 | 850,945                  | 821,024 |

Dividends reported by Gold Mining Companies for the two months ended February, 1946 amounted to "Nil", as against £31,250 for the corresponding period last year.

RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS.

(Base, weighted average of six capital cities for 1923/27 = 1000)

|                     | FEBRUARY |      | 8 Months ended FEBRUARY |      |
|---------------------|----------|------|-------------------------|------|
|                     | 1946     | 1945 | 1946                    | 1945 |
| Food and Groceries: |          |      |                         |      |
| Metropolitan Area   | 1065     | 1062 | 1059                    | 1058 |
| Kalgoorlie-Boulder  | 1199     | 1190 | 1191                    | 1185 |
| Northam             | 1078     | 1071 | 1068                    | 1068 |
| Bunbury             | 1062     | 1046 | 1046                    | 1040 |
| Geraldton           | 1088     | 1084 | 1082                    | 1090 |

EMPLOYMENT INDEX SERIES.

| Month     | FACTORIES<br>(Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees)<br>= 100) |      |         |         |      | RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS (b)<br>(Base: July, 1941 (9,578<br>Employees) = 1000) |      |      |      |      |
|-----------|--|------|---------|---------|------|---|------|------|------|------|
|           | 1942   | 1943 | 1944(a) | 1945(a) | 1946 | 1942  | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 |
| January   | 116  | 128  | 137     | 142     | 144  | 1014  | 865  | 826  | 870  | 995  |
| February  | 118  | 130  | 138     | 143     |      | 986   | 861  | 824  | 868  |      |
| March     | 118  | 132  | 139     | 142     |      | 962   | 846  | 825  | 877  |      |
| April     | 118  | 134  | 139     | 142     |      | 955   | 835  | 827  | 876  |      |
| May       | 119  | 131  | 140     | 143     |      | 927   | 836  | 832  | 891  |      |
| June      | 118  | 135  | 139     | 143     |      | 907   | 835  | 829  | 903  |      |
| July      | 117  | 136  | 140(a)  | 143     |      | 888   | 828  | 832  | 899  |      |
| August    | 119  | 136  | 140     | 142     |      | 882   | 814  | 832  | 897  |      |
| September | 120  | 137  | 140     | 139     |      | 877   | 806  | 834  | 914  |      |
| October   | 122  | 138  | 141     | 139     |      | 874   | 801  | 837  | 929  |      |
| November  | 123  | 136  | 142     | 142     |      | 873   | 814  | 851  | 965  |      |
| December  | 124  | 137  | 143     | 142     |      | 880   | 840  | 886  | 1012 |      |

(a) Figures subsequent to June 1944 are preliminary and are based primarily on Pay Roll Tax Returns.

(b) Indexes computed by Commonwealth Statistician from Pay Roll Tax Returns.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA.  
(Generated by the W.A. Government Power Station)

|                              | FEBRUARY |        | 8 months ended FEBRUARY |         |
|------------------------------|----------|--------|-------------------------|---------|
|                              | 1946     | 1945   | 1946                    | 1945    |
| Units Generated (1000K.W.H.) | 15,281   | 14,662 | 123,510                 | 122,842 |
| Units Sold (1000K.W.H.)      | 12,866   | 12,108 | 104,587                 | 103,529 |

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS IN PRINCIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

| Month                           | Cattle | Calves | Sheep   | Pigs   |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
|                                 | No.    | No.    | No.     | No.    |
| February, 1946                  | 3,889  | 183    | 42,281  | 13,850 |
| February, 1945                  | 5,125  | 317    | 74,505  | 13,614 |
| Two months ended February, 1946 | 8,265  | 396    | 108,037 | 32,011 |
| Two months ended February, 1945 | 9,953  | 680    | 175,121 | 28,113 |